these products. The requisite draft gazette notifications have been issued for inviting public comments.

Resurgence of Malaria

970. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been alarming resurgence of malaria in many parts of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is largely on account of lack of vector (mosquito) control in most of the rural areas, due to lack of funds with State Governments and high cost of insecticides approved by National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP); and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to reinvigorate the programme of spraying of insecticides in vulnerable States/areas and also to approve affordable insecticides for use by States, without delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Incidence of malaria in the country as a whole is on the decline for the last four years. However, focal outbreaks of this disease were reported from some parts of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan Gujarat, Goa, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh during this period.

Focal upsurge of malaria is attributed mainly to natural calamities like heavy rains, floods, operational deficiencies apart from inadequate and untimely release of funds by the State Governments to meet the operational cost.

(c) The steps taken for containment of malaria include:—

* Intensification of vector control measures through prioritization of areas for selective spray with appropriate insecticides and alternative and integrated vector control methods.

* Introduction of newer insecticides like Synthetic Pyrethorids for selective use as per technical requirements.

* Intensification of Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities for public awareness and community participation.

* Institutional and management capacity building, manpower development through intensive re-orientation programme at all levels and efficient Management Information system (MIS).

* Implementation of an Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP) with World Bank support under the National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) since September, 1997 covering 100 predominantly tribal highly malaria endemic districts of 7 peninsular States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and 19 cities/towns having high endemicity of malaria in these States and the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for intensification of Malaria Control activities by way of additional inputs through a mix of interventions.

* Providing 100% Central assistance to the 7 North Eastern States since December, 1994 under NAMP.

Prevention of AIDS

971. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India, Calcutta edition of 10th October, 1998 under the caption "3.5 million Indians carry AIDS virus", if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) the percentage of such person to world's AIDS affected person;

(c) the measures taken to take care of such patients, both social and medical care; and

(d) the preventive measure taken to stop further spread of HIV in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

11–225/GIPMR/2000